

# CHURCH OF ST. CRONAN

## BRACKENSTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

20th June 2021 Year B  
12th SUNDAY in Ordinary Time

*Dear Parishioner,*

In the last fifteen months, we have been unable to do the things we normally do to express our faith and our solidarity with each other. This is not to say that the life of prayer and charity have ceased, but life's usual patterns have been disrupted, as have the deep practices that nourish our faith, empower our social solidarity, and animate the mission of the Church towards the poor and disadvantaged. Along with the countries of the developed world, our country has been fortunate that people have been supported during the significant economic upheaval and hardship of the pandemic. Even in our grief and loss, we have much to be thankful for.

Communities and parishes have shown resilience and imagination in their responses to the challenges of the pandemic. For many this has revealed new ways of collaboration and involvement. We also have to acknowledge that certain aspects of Church life have been severely impacted. One of these is parish finances, and while we eagerly long for a return to the life that we knew, we also have to act to ensure that our parishes have the financial minimum they need to survive.

The necessary restriction of public worship has profoundly affected the two essential Sunday Mass collections on which parish funds depend. The first collection—as you know—supports clergy ministering throughout the diocese as well as sick and retired priests and priests working in other ministries throughout the diocese. The second collection—the 'Share' collection—supports diocesan services to parishes especially disadvantaged parishes. In the last financial year, the clergy collection decreased by 54% and the 'Share' collection decreased by 65%. This year the situation is even more grave—with a decrease of 80% and 86% respectively for

the first quarter (January to March 2021). That this would have happened, given the character of the necessary lockdowns, is not surprising. I am grateful to all who have continued to give so generously in the past 15 months.


This generosity cannot be expected to address the deeper financial challenges which the Archdiocese faces. I have therefore approved the proposal to hold a new Summer Dues collection to support priests of the diocese. This initiative will follow the pattern of the Christmas and Easter dues collections giving parishioners an opportunity to contribute to the income that supports priests.

The Summer Offering collection will be launched on the weekend of the 20<sup>th</sup> June. In making this appeal, I ask you to remember that the greatest resource of the Church is its people—both laity and clergy—working hand-in-hand. The age profile of the priest is rapidly increasing, and there are few vocations to priesthood and religious life. Yet the priests we have in the diocese continue to serve quietly week-in-week-out while more is being asked of fewer and fewer. The ministry and mission of our Church cannot continue without this humble, generous service.

I thank you for continuing to support our parishes and the clergy who work among you. Your generosity to this new initiative of Summer Dues will provide much needed practical and moral support for priests working quietly and effectively at the heart of every local community of faith.

While great strides have been made in getting the virus under control, there is still a way to go before our country and other nations are out of the woods. We are facing the summer with its the brighter mornings and long evenings. May the change of pace that summer brings provide a break from the darkness of the difficult winter we have endured. May the Holy Spirit lift our hearts, and renew our hope so that in 'our common home' we may share the life for which God created us (see Gen 1:3 1, 2:18, and John 10:10).

Yours sincerely,



†Dermot Farrell  
Archbishop of Dublin

## Summer Dues



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING  
YOUR PRIESTS

Archdiocese of Dublin



### WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

Earlier this year, Pope Francis announced a new celebration in the Church year—World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. It will be held each year on the fourth Sunday of July, close to the Feast of SS Joachim and Anne. This year, it falls on 25th July.

At all Masses on weekend of 25th July, we will be celebrating Grandparents and older people and how important they are in our lives. There is a special invite for grandparents and grandchildren to come to Mass together. There is also one extra Mass 1.15pm. The Papal Nuncio Archbishop Jude Okolo will celebrate the inaugural Mass for world Day for grandparents and the Elderly in Ireland. As numbers will still be limited, this will be a ticketed event and will be limited to two grandparents and two grandchildren per family. To register your interest, email the

Parish Office at [brackenstownparish@gmail.com](mailto:brackenstownparish@gmail.com) with your name and the names of your grandchildren. Names will be drawn from a hat later this month.

Some ideas for celebrating at home: Invite grandparents for a visit and watch the Mass with Archbishop Okolo together; send your grandparents a card; zoom/facetime/phone grandparents who are far away; drop a note into an older neighbour who lives on their own; Write the names of grandparents on a candle for our 'Window of Faith' in the Church.—you can get a candle in the Sacred Space beside the Confession box; if grandparents have passed away, take out some pictures and share stories about them.

# Building Hope Dublin Diocese Task Force

Shortly after Easter, Archbishop Farrell set up a Task Force to look at the needs of the Diocese and to work to support Parishes, Diocesan Agencies and Chaplaincies, to undertake a radical renewal. This is to help us to look to the future with hope and creativity. The members of the Task Force come from various backgrounds in pastoral ministry, education, adult faith formation, social justice, strategic and policy planning. They come from various parts of the Diocese and there is a balance between lay and clerical, and male and female.

There are four stages to the work of the Task Force:

- To gather the thoughts and ideas of people
- To assess the themes and comments that come through
- To report to the Archbishop
- To offer a pastoral approach which is inclusive and appropriate to our time.

The General Consultation will begin next week and we will make the link available on the Parish Website, Facebook Page and in next weeks Newsletter.

We encourage you to take part in this consultation.  
Fr. Paul



## 10 AM MASSES NEXT WEEK

**Mon:** Ted O'Kane (1A)

**Tues:** Aileen Smyth (RD)

Paddy Gerrard (RD)

Pray for: Tom & Seamus Mongan

**Wed:** Seamus & Mariah Maughan getting married in UK  
Special Intention

**Thur:** Cyril O'Neill (A)

**Fri:** Gerry Thornton (Bday Rem)

**Sat:** Joan O'Brien (RD)

## ALL MASSES THIS WEEKEND ARE OFFERED FOR:

### Anniversaries

Kathleen & Patrick O'Reilly  
& Dcsd Members of  
O'Reilly & Lee Families  
John, Amy & Aaron Thornton (A)  
Kevin Donnelly (A)  
Carmel, Patrick &  
Albert Bissett (A)  
James, Kathleen, Jack  
& Valerie English (A)  
Matthew Kelly (47A)

### Recently Deceased

Noel Mulrooney (MM)  
Mary & Peter McManus (RD)  
Nora Seavers (RD)  
Phil Clandillon (RD)



This week the Junior School are graduating into the Senior School. The boys and girls in St. Cronan's SNS, Gaelscoil Bhriain Boroimhe and Swords & Thornleigh ETNS are moving from their primary school into their new secondary school. We wish them every blessing as they continue on the adventure of their education.



## TREE OF KNOWLEDGE



We will have our 'Tree of Knowledge' in the Church over the next few weeks. If you know of anyone who is sitting an exam, you can use the paper and tape to add their name to the tree. All those sitting exams will be remembered in our prayers at this time.

**Bethany Bereavement Support Group** offers a free and confidential telephone support to any bereaved parishioners who might wish to avail of it. Please phone Bridget - 085 2812985 from Terri - 8403243 - week **Sunday 20th June to Saturday 26th June.** Please phone after 6pm. Please phone after 6pm. We offer our sympathy to anyone who has been bereaved during these very difficult months. "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted".

Statues of St. Joseph, Candles of Hope with **Pope Francis' Prayer for Protection from the Coronavirus** are available by emailing: [brackenstownparish@gmail.com](mailto:brackenstownparish@gmail.com)  
Catholic Papers & Magazines are available in the new bookrack at the back of the Church.

**'LIKE' Legion of Mary Brackenstown Swords**



## FIRST FRIDAY CALLS

If you know of someone who would like to receive Holy Communion from the priest of the parish on the First Friday of every month, please contact the parish office on 01 8401188 or email [brackenstownparish@gmail.com](mailto:brackenstownparish@gmail.com). Also, we aware that over the past year that a number of our parishioners have moved into nursing homes. We would very much like to be able to keep in touch with them so if you know of someone or a relative who has gone into a nursing home, please let us know.



PARISH PRIEST & ADMINISTRATOR

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01 8401661 - 087 7404729

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FR. BIBIN JACOB C.S.T., C.C.

01 8408926 - 089 4238775

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PARISH PASTORAL WORKER

NIAMH MORRIS

085 7708759

[NIAMH.MORRIS@DUBLINDIOCESE.IE](mailto:NIAMH.MORRIS@DUBLINDIOCESE.IE)

PERMANENT DEACON

DECLAN COLGAN

01 8401188

[BRACKENSTOWNPARISH@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BRACKENSTOWNPARISH@GMAIL.COM)

PARISH SECRETARY

LOUISE DONNELLY

TUES TO THURS 10:30AM - 1:00PM

01 8401188

[BRACKENSTOWNPARISH@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BRACKENSTOWNPARISH@GMAIL.COM)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 20016166



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